

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
EDWIN A. MONTIE ET AL.

Atty. Docket
NL 000307

SERIAL NO.:

GROUP ART UNIT:

FILED: CONCURRENTLY

METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR ALLOCATING RECORDING SPACE ON A
RECORDING MEDIUM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculating the filing fee and examination,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

5. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the consecutive blocks are displayed so as to be discernable from the rest of the displayed directory.

6. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, in which the consecutive blocks are indicated by displaying a frame around the consecutive blocks, highlighting or underlining the consecutive blocks, or by a color, font, character size or typography different from the other directory blocks.

7. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the predetermined length corresponds to an amount of recording time.

8. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the predetermined length corresponds to an amount of data.

9. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the method further comprises the steps:

calculating the difference between the lengths of the consecutive blocks and the predetermined length; and
displaying the difference.

10. (Amended) A module for allocating recording space on a recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length, the module comprising:

memory means for storing a directory associated with the recording medium, said directory listing blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries; and

processing means connected to the memory means for receiving a start position on the recording medium, and for determining the consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start position, characterized in that the processing means indicates the consecutive blocks in the displayed directory.

11. (Amended) The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the processing means determines the start position by a search algorithm.

12. (Amended) The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the processing means receives the start position input from a user.

13. (Amended) The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the processing means displays the directory in a text-only format.

14. (Amended) The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the processing means displays the consecutive blocks so as to be discernable from the rest of the displayed directory.

15. (Amended) The module as claimed in claim 14, in which the processing means further indicates the consecutive blocks by displaying a frame around the consecutive blocks, highlighting or underlining the consecutive blocks, or by a color, font, character size or typography different from the other directory blocks.

16. (Amended) The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the processing means further calculates a difference between the lengths of the consecutive blocks and the predetermined length, and to display the difference.

17. (Amended) A video recorder system including the module as claimed in claim 10.

18. (Amended) A computer program product comprising data and instructions to be loaded into a computer, thereby enabling the computer to carry out the method as claimed in claim 1.


19. (Amended) A data carrier provided with the computer program product as claimed in claim 18.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claims 4, 5, 7-9 and 18 have each been made proper singularly dependent claims, each depending from claim 1; and claims 13, 14, 16 and 17 have each been made proper singularly dependent claims, each depending from claim 10. In addition, the claims have been amended for clarity.

When the Examiner takes this case up for examination, it is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be taken into consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

by 
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APPENDIX

1. (Amended) A method of allocating recording space on a recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length, the recording medium having an associated directory ~~(30)~~, which directory ~~(30)~~ lists blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries, the method comprising the steps: ~~of~~ _____ receiving a start position on the recording medium ~~(step 21)~~; _____ determining, with the aid of the directory, ~~(30)~~ the consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start position ~~(step 22)~~; and _____ displaying the directory ~~(step 23)~~, characterized in that the method further comprises ~~a further~~ the step: ~~of~~ _____ indicating the consecutive blocks in the displayed directory ~~(step 24)~~.

2. (Amended) ~~A The method according to~~ as claimed in claim 1, in which the start position is determined by a search algorithm.

3. (Amended) ~~A method according to~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the start position is determined in that start position input is received from a user.

4. (Amended) ~~A method according to~~ The method as claimed in
claim 1, ~~2 or 3,~~ in which the directory ~~(30)~~ is displayed in a
text-only format.

5. (Amended) ~~A method according to any one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the consecutive
blocks are displayed so as to be discernable from the rest of the
displayed directory.

6. (Amended) ~~A method according to~~ The method as claimed in
claim 5, in which the consecutive blocks are indicated by
displaying a frame ~~(31)~~ around the consecutive blocks, highlighting
or underlining the consecutive blocks, or by a color, font,
character size or typography different from the other directory
blocks.

7. (Amended) ~~A method according to any one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the predetermined
length corresponds to an amount of recording time.

8. (Amended) ~~A method according to any one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the predetermined
length corresponds to an amount of data.

9. (Amended) ~~A method according to any one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the method further
comprises ~~a further~~the steps: ~~(step 27) of~~
_____ calculating the difference between the lengths of the
5 consecutive blocks and the predetermined length; ~~and of~~
_____ displaying the difference.

10. (Amended) A module ~~(12)~~ for allocating recording space on a
recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length,
the module comprising:
_____ memory means ~~(13)~~ for storing a directory ~~(30)~~ associated
with the recording medium, ~~which said directory (30) lists~~listing
blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries; and
_____ processing means ~~(14)~~ connected to the memory means ~~(13)~~
for receiving a start position on the recording medium, and for
determining the consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least
10 the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start
position,
characterized in that the processing means ~~(14) are adapted to~~
~~indicate~~indicates the consecutive blocks in the displayed directory
~~(30)~~.

11. (Amended) ~~A module (12) according to~~ The module as claimed
in claim 10, in which the processing means ~~(14) are adapted to~~
~~determined~~determines the start position by a search algorithm.

12. (Amended) ~~A module (12) according to~~ The module as claimed
in claim 10, in which the processing means ~~(14) are adapted to~~
~~receiver~~receives the start position input from a user.

13. (Amended) ~~A module (12) according to~~ The module as claimed
in claim 10, 11 or 12, in which the processing means ~~(14) are~~
~~further adapted to display~~displays the directory ~~(30)~~ in a text-
only format.

14. (Amended) ~~A module (12) according to any one of the claims~~
~~10 through 13~~The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the
processing means ~~(14) are further adapted to display~~displays the
consecutive blocks so as to be discernable from the rest of the
displayed directory.

15. (Amended) ~~A module (12) according to~~ The module as claimed
in claim 14, in which the processing means ~~(14) are further adapted~~
~~to indicate~~indicates the consecutive blocks by displaying a frame
~~(31)~~ around the consecutive blocks, highlighting or underlining the

5 consecutive blocks, or by a color, font, character size or
typography different from the other directory blocks.

16. (Amended) ~~A module (12) according to any one of the claims~~
~~10 through 15~~The module as claimed in claim 10, in which the
processing means ~~(14) are further adapted to calculating~~calculates
a difference between the lengths of the consecutive blocks and the
5 predetermined length, and to display the difference.

17. (Amended) A video recorder system ~~(10) including a module~~
~~(12) according to any one of the claims 10 through 16~~the module as
claimed in claim 10.

18. (Amended) A computer program product comprising data and
instructions to be loaded into a computer, thereby enabling the
computer to carry out the method ~~according to any one of the claims~~
~~1 through 9~~as claimed in claim 1.

19. (Amended) A data carrier provided with ~~a~~the computer
program product ~~according to~~as claimed in claim 18.